

SENATE BILL 2386

By Watson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56,
Chapter 7, Part 23, relative to coverage of
emergency services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-2355(a)(1), is amended by
deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(1) "Emergency medical condition" means a medical condition that manifests
itself by symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, regardless of the final
diagnosis of the symptoms, that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average
knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate
medical attention to potentially result in:

- (A) Placing the person's health in serious jeopardy;
- (B) Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
- (C) Serious dysfunction of a bodily organ or part;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-2355(b)(1), is amended by
deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(1) A health benefit plan shall not deny payment for emergency services if the
symptoms presented by an enrollee of a health benefit plan and recorded by the
attending provider indicate that an emergency medical condition could exist, regardless
of:

- (A) The final diagnosis of the symptoms;
- (B) Whether prior authorization was obtained to provide those services;

and

(C) Whether the provider furnishing the services has a contractual agreement with the health benefit plan for the provision of the services to the enrollee.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to plans delivered, issued, entered into, renewed, or amended on or after that date.